



Response under 37 CFR §1.116  
Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group 2132

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of  
MICHAEL EPSTEIN

Atty. Docket  
PHA 23.548

Serial: 09/211,155

Group Art Unit: 2132

Filed: 12/14/1998

Examiner: BARRON JR, GILBERTO

BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION MECHANISM THAT PRESERVES THE INTEGRITY  
OF THE BIOMETRIC INFORMATION

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE under 37 CFR §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 26, 2002,  
which sets forth a final rejection the following remarks are  
submitted herewith:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 19 and amend independent Claim 18 and  
claim 20 as follows, where a marked-up version of the amended  
Claims 18 and 20 is attached as Appendix A:

18. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for determining an access status  
comprising the steps of:

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